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CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method for utilizing personal information to
5 customize an application program, comprising the steps:
 - receiving personal information corresponding to a unique user identity;
 - 10 creating a user record for each unique user identity including the personal information;
 - 15 storing multiple user records with personal information that corresponds to a plurality of unique user identities; and
 - sharing the personal information with the application program, wherein the personal information is applied to an output of the application program.
2. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 - in response to receiving new personal information corresponding to the unique user identity,
 - 20 retrieving the user record including the personal information;
 - modifying the user record including the personal information with the new personal information; and
 - 25 sharing the new personal information with the application program, wherein the new personal information is applied to an output of the application program.
3. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 - 30 in response to receiving new personal information corresponding to a new unique user identity,

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creating a user record including the new personal information corresponding to the new unique user identity; and

5 sharing the new personal information corresponding to the new unique user identity with the application program, wherein the new personal information corresponding to the new unique user identity is applied to an output of the application program.

4. The method of Claim 3, further comprising the steps of:

10 in response to receiving a change in user identity, retrieving the user record corresponding to the changed user identity; and

15 sharing personal information associated with the user record corresponding to the changed user identity with the application program, wherein the personal information associated with the user record corresponding to the changed user identity is applied to an output of the application program.

5. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step 20 of storing the user record in a framework identity database.

6. The method of Claim 5, wherein the step of receiving personal information further comprises, sending the personal information to a shared code library for one or more application programs, wherein 25 the shared code library sends the personal information to the framework identity database.

7. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of receiving personal information corresponding to a unique user identity further comprises receiving the personal information through a user interface. 30

8. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of receiving personal information corresponding to a unique user identity further comprises receiving new or previously stored personal information from a computer or a network.

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9. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of sharing the personal information with the application program further comprises customizing an output of the application program using the personal information.

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10. The method of Claim 7, wherein the user interface consists of at least one of the following group: a graphical user interface, a mouse, a keyboard, a touch-sensitive display screen, voice recognition interface.

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11. The method of Claim 1, wherein personal information consists of at least one of the following group: a user name, address, telephone number, picture, speech pattern, a preference, or a list.

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12. The method of Claim 1, wherein personal information consists of at least one of the following group: a dictionary, an auto-correct list, a menu option, dialog layout, a dictionary or grammar setting, a help list, or a user preference list.

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13. The method of Claim 1, wherein the output consists of at least one of the following group: a document, a template, a wizard, a command, a tab, a preference, or a feature.

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14. The method of Claim 1, wherein the application program consists of at least one of the following group: a word processor, an electronic spreadsheet, a graphical presentation program,

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an electronic personal information manager, or an electronic mail program.

15. The method of Claim 1, wherein the application
5 program comprises a plurality of application programs.

16. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of receiving personal information further comprises receiving personal information from a second application program.

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PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

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17. A computer system for utilizing personal information to customize an application program comprising:

a memory for storing an application program and a framework identity database; and

5 a processing unit functionally coupled to the memory, for executing computer-executable instructions operable for:

receiving personal information corresponding to a unique user identity;

10 creating a user record for each unique user identity including the personal information;

storing multiple user records with personal information that corresponds to a plurality of unique user identities; and

15 sharing the personal information with the application program, wherein the personal information is applied to an output of the application program.

18. The computer system of Claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

20 in response to receiving new personal information corresponding to the unique user identity,

retrieving the user record including the personal information;

modifying the user record including the personal information with the new personal information; and

25 sharing the new personal information with the application program, wherein the new personal information is applied to an output of the application program.

19. The computer system of Claim 17, further comprising the steps of:

30 in response to receiving new personal information corresponding to a new unique user identity,

creating a user record including the new personal information corresponding to the new unique user identity; and

5 sharing the new personal information corresponding to the new unique user identity with the application program, wherein the new personal information corresponding to the new unique user identity is applied to an output of the application program.

20. The computer system of Claim 19, further comprising the steps of:

10 in response to receiving a change in user identity, retrieving the user record corresponding to the changed user identity; and sharing personal information associated with the user record corresponding to the changed user identity with the application program, wherein the personal information associated with the user record corresponding to the changed user identity is applied to an output of the application program.

21. The computer system of Claim 17, further comprising 20 the step of storing the user record in a framework identity database.

22. The computer system of Claim 21, wherein the step of receiving personal information further comprises, sending the personal information to a shared code library for one or more application programs, wherein the shared code library sends the personal information to the framework identity database.

23. The method of Claim 17, wherein the step of receiving personal information corresponding to a unique user identity 30 further comprises receiving the personal information through a user interface.

24. The method of Claim 17, wherein the step of receiving personal information corresponding to a unique user identity further comprises receiving new or previously stored personal information from a computer or a network.

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25. The method of Claim 17, wherein the step of sharing the personal information with the application program further comprises customizing an output of the application program using the personal information.

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26. The computer system of Claim 17, wherein the user interface consists of at least one of the following group: a graphical user interface, a mouse, a keyboard, a touch-sensitive display screen, voice recognition interface.

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27. The computer system of Claim 17, wherein personal information consists of at least one of the following group: a user name, address, telephone number, picture, speech pattern, a preference, or a list.

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28. The computer system of Claim 17, wherein personal information consists of at least one of the following group: a dictionary, an auto-correct list, a menu option, dialog layout, a dictionary or grammar setting, a help list, or a user preference list.

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29. The computer system of Claim 17, wherein the output consists of at least one of the following group: a document, a template, a wizard, a command, a tab, a preference, or a feature.

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30. The computer system of Claim 17, wherein the application program consists of at least one of the following group: a word processor, an electronic spreadsheet, a graphical presentation

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program, an electronic personal information manager, or an electronic mail program.

31. The computer system of Claim 17, wherein the
5 application program comprises a plurality of application programs.

32. The method of Claim 17, wherein the step of receiving personal information further comprises receiving personal information from a second application program.

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